

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed below and on the enclosed Form PTO-1449.

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- (1) U.S. Patent No. 6,476,927
- (2) U.S. Patent No. 6,466,328
- (3) U.S. Patent No. 6,373,585
- (4) U.S. Patent No. 6,263,387
- (5) U.S. Patent No. 5,987,535
- (6) U.S. Patent No. 5,933,584
- (7) U.S. Patent No. 5,923,013
- (8) U.S. Patent No. 5,889,896
- (9) U.S. Patent No. 5,832,301
- (10) U.S. Patent No. 5,819,112
- (11) U.S. Patent No. 5,764,866

The Examiner's attention is directed to the following U.S. Applications:

	<u>Application Number</u>	<u>Inventor(s)</u>	<u>Filing Date</u>	<u>Group Art Unit</u>	<u>Attorney Docket No.</u>
NP	(12) 09/448,593	Matsuo, et al.	11/24/99	2181	03500.002497

A copy of document (9) is enclosed. Documents (1) to (8) and (10) to (12) were cited in parent Application No. 09/442,992 and might be deemed pertinent for the reasons given there. The Examiner is respectfully directed to the Patent and Trademark Office files for review of these documents. See MPEP § 609. Additionally, the Examiner is requested to indicate that the information has been considered by initialing the appropriate portion of the attached form PTO-1449.

[Handwritten Signature]

8/4/04